

Malaria Skit: Script

Cast:

2 UMCOR workers (VESTS w/ UMCOR on them), 2 parents & a youth (play clothing, not dressed up), one mosquito (costume provided)

UMCOR worker 1: Nets are one of the most effective ways to prevent malaria and is so easy for you to make a difference in your family to help combat this deadly disease. Without treatment, malaria's flu-like symptoms - fever, chills, vomiting, and headache - can lead to convulsions, organ failure and death. Please have your child under a net to sleep (cover the youth with the net). If a family member becomes ill, please bring them to the new hospitals that UMCOR has built.

Parent 1: I don't have much money and the nets are much more useful if I use it to go fishing, so I can feed my family. One of my neighbors used the net for a wedding veil! We need to use what we have to survive in this community. I have been bitten by the mosquito and survived. I don't need a bed net just for protection from a pesky bug.

Mosquito: (jumps out-came down the church aisle buzzing). Hey! I'm not pesky! Why is everyone picking on me? Just need to drink your blood so that I can produce eggs. I only live for a few weeks so what is the big deal I live in standing water that could be a lake, stream, or a bucket that was not emptied. I'm just a little bug, how can I cause you big people to die?

UMCOR worker 2: You may be a tiny mosquito, but when you bite a human and spread a parasite called Plasmodium. Every 30 seconds an innocent child in Africa dies of malaria. You parents have a chance to make a difference. Please use the bed nets that are insecticide-treated and clean up the area around your towns. Don't leave thing outside that could collect water and spray your homes with insecticide. Spraying insecticide inside your houses last up to 3-6 months. (spray the mosquito& he falls down)

Parent 2: I wish I would have known of the importance of the nets. I lost my child to malaria. Think of how sick you are with a bad case of the flu then times that by 5. That is how sick you get and my little one didn't survive. My pregnant sister died also. Now I help UMCOR to Teach people how to effectively use bed nets and how best to protect themselves from malaria. Without TV's we use radio and cell phones to deliver lifesaving information about malaria. Working to drain standing water where mosquitoes breed is the hardest thing for us to educate our people on.